



# Washington State Department of Agriculture *News Release*

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## **Media Advisory**

### **Brookreson takes on role as acting director at Department of Agriculture**

OLYMPIA – Bill Brookreson, deputy director of the state Department of Agriculture since 1999, took over duties as acting director of the agency effective Dec. 3. Brookreson assumes the position while Gov. Gary Locke considers a permanent replacement for Jim Jesernig, agency director for the past eight years. The director serves at the pleasure of the governor.

Jesernig's last day at the Department of Agriculture was Nov. 30. He left the agency to take a position with a law firm.

"Being part of the senior management team is a great opportunity to make a difference for state agriculture," Brookreson said. Brookreson added his goal is to make a positive economic impact for farmers while continuing efforts to reduce regulatory burdens placed on farmers.

In his 27-year career with the agency, Brookreson has headed almost all the divisions and has been a member of the executive management team for the past 12 years. As deputy director, Brookreson served as the agency's chief operations officer and oversaw the work of assistant directors for the four agency divisions.

Brookreson is a graduate of Western Washington University and the University of Illinois.

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